

## FIRES'S TERM SWEET AND STEAD

The Water Wednesday Afternoon was the  
Roughest Known in Many Years

### EXPERT SEAMANSHIP IN TIME OF STRESS

Steam Launches Belonging to the Fleet Made Perilous  
Trips—Two Sailors Tossed Overboard but were Rescued—Ladies on Board the Rhode Island's Launch Fainted During Excitement of Near-Collision.

Port Monroe, Va., Feb. 24.—After being pelted in brilliant sunlight throughout the morning, the American "battle fleet" in Hampton Roads was swept by another severe storm this afternoon.

#### Stiff Southeast Gale.

The stiff southeast gale which set in yesterday lasted throughout the morning, but the skies were clear and the view of the two long lines of anchored fighting craft was magnificent. After noon, however, the wind shifted to the southwest and a drenching rain began. The battleships and cruisers did not suffer from the blow, but the steam launches running to the shore made decidedly heavy weather of it.

#### Lunch Party of Ladies in Peril.

Two sailors on ship's launches were tossed overboard during the afternoon but both were rescued. A launch belonging to the battleship Rhode Island was partly wrecked in trying to come alongside the ship's gangway. A luncheon party of ladies was aboard and when the wave-floods came upon the launch, the women on board fainted. The launch drifted rapidly away from the ship, the engine having caught in a "dead center" in reversing.

#### Another Little Steamer was Sent to Pick her up.

Only the expert seamanship of the navy coxswains and dockhands in charge of the launches prevented more serious mishaps. The water was the roughest known in recent years in Hampton Roads. Many of the launches on board the various ships had to be postponed, while scores of visitors who went early to the anchored vessels had to remain on board until

late before they could be sent ashore. Shore boats did not attempt to make the battleship lines during the storm. Rear Admiral Sperry Goes to Wash.

Rear Admiral Sperry will leave for Washington tomorrow afternoon instead of on Friday, as he had at first planned. He goes to the next committee meeting to discuss the further plans for the fleet and nothing in the way of inspection or detaching any of the ships will be done until he returns. The commanding and other officers were much gratified by the published reports from Washington that Admiral Sperry will continue to be commander in chief of the battleship fleet until the date of his retirement.

#### The Next Commander in Chief.

Some reports were inclined to believe the report that has spread among the fleet that President Roosevelt intends himself to name the next commander in chief before he retires from office. An official announcement is expected while Admiral Sperry is in Washington.

#### Invitation of City of Norfolk Accepted.

"The invitation of the Norfolk entertainment committee to officers and men of the fleet to visit that city on Saturday, Feb. 27, has been accepted by Admiral Sperry today. The commander in chief himself will not be able to attend because of the state of his health, but 149 officers and 2,000 bluejackets will go to Norfolk for a parade, in which several hundred regular troops of the United States will also participate. Immediately after the parade the officers and men will be dining at Norfolk, and the fleet will remain in the harbor until the 28th, when it will be practically the same as that which will be in line at the inaugural parade March 4.

#### COMMITTEE ON ROADS, RIVERS AND BRIDGES

Consider Freeing from Toll of Bridge Between Suffield and Enfield.

Hartford, Conn., Feb. 24.—An extended discussion was had this afternoon before the legislative committee on roads, rivers and bridges at the capital, on the bill which has for its object the freeing from toll of the bridge over the Connecticut river between the towns of Suffield and Enfield. It was stated by those speaking for the bill that although the bridge, together with those at Windsor Locks and Middletown, was supposed to be a free bridge by the action of the previous legislature, disputes and litigation over the matter had caused long delay, with the consequence that the persons wishing to use the bridge still had to pay toll. It was stated by those opposing the bill, however, that the bridge company should be compensated for the amount of compensation would probably soon be settled, and that then the toll should be levied. The bridge would become free. Any further legislation would complicate matters and result in injustice to the holders of bridge stock, many of them minors and children. Among those called on to speak by the well wishers of the bill were Hon. Charles H. Holcomb, who was asked to state the attitude of the state in the matter.

#### SOCIETY MAN PLEADS GUILTY

To Charge of Attempted Bribery of a Witness.

New York, Feb. 24.—The trial of Carl Fischer Hansen, the lawyer and society man, charged with attempting to bribe a witness in a case brought to a sudden close today by the entering of a plea of guilty by the defendant to an amended complaint charging attempted bribery. A sentence of twelve months imprisonment in the city jail was imposed on Fischer Hansen by Justice Dowling. Before beginning to serve out the sentence of the court the convicted lawyer is to be given a week in which to settle his business affairs. In pleading guilty, Fischer Hansen completely exonerated his law partner, Alexander Michaelson, who was indicted jointly with him. The sentence carries with it disbarment.

#### OCEAN MAIL SUBSIDY BILL.

It is Believed the Bill Will Be Favorably Reported Today.

Washington, Feb. 24.—Interest in the debate on the salary increases on the floor of the house interfered twice today with the meeting of the house committee on post offices and post roads to consider the senate ocean mail subsidy bill. A meeting will be held tomorrow, and it is believed that the bill will then be favorably reported. The members are said to stand ten to eight for a favorable report.

#### It is Planned to Bring in a Special Rule for the Passage of the Bill, if it is Favorably Reported.

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#### RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN ECUADOR.

Train Thrown Over a Cliff—25 Persons Killed.

Guayaquil, Ecuador, Feb. 24.—A passenger train on the main line, bound north, was today thrown over a cliff 100 feet high, near the precipitous ravine, and crashed to the bottom of the ravine. All the cars were practically demolished. Twenty-five persons were killed and 40 injured. The accident was caused by a displaced rail.

#### Mine Planters at Callao.

Callao, Peru, Feb. 24.—The United States mine planters, Rinegold and Amstutz, who are proceeding from New York for San Francisco, have arrived Callao.

#### Two Men Killed by Electricity.

New York, Feb. 24.—Two laborers working on one of the Meadco tunnels at the edge of the Hudson river, in Jersey City, were instantly killed today by coming in contact with an electric light wire.

### Cabled Paragraphs.

Paris, Feb. 24.—The French line of steamers was questioned today concerning the statement that Cipriano Castro, the former president of Venezuela, has engaged a passenger ship for La Guaira on the steamer Guadeloupe, sailing next Friday, and said that no such reservation had been made.

#### Tokio, Feb. 24.—Special despatches

describing the reception of the American battleship fleet on its arrival at Hampton Roads, have been printed in the Japanese newspapers, accompanied by congratulatory editorials. The Jiji, which represents the highest thought in Japan, says: "Their trip is especially notable as marking the creation of a new epoch in the relations between Japan and the United States. All Japan joins in sending congratulations." Similar statements are expressed by all the other newspapers.

#### Taft Warmly Eulogized

BY PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT. No Man Better Equipped for the Presidency Was Ever Elected Chief Magistrate—President-Elect's Life.

Washington, Feb. 24.—An interesting feature of the "Inaugural Souvenir" issued by the committee in charge of the inaugural ceremonies is a biographical sketch of President-Elect Taft by President Roosevelt. It has peculiar significance in view of the rumors that have been published to the effect that friction existed between Roosevelt and Taft. The president's sketch says in these words: "No man of better training, no man of more dauntless courage, of sounder judgment, of more high and noble character has ever come to the presidency than William Howard Taft."

#### The President's Life.

"He won an enviable reputation and secured a remarkable degree of respectability by his own conduct in combining the duties of chief magistrate and upholding his own convictions with the ability to avoid giving needless offense to those whose convictions differed from his. The combination of these qualities is rare. There are too many men in public life who are not able to stand by their convictions in time of stress, and there are also not a few who, having right convictions and the courage to stand by them, nevertheless put them forward in the most offensive manner. The manner best fitted to prevent their becoming the converts of their fellow countrymen. It is one of Mr. Taft's services exactly this ability, the ability to stand by the right and yet to do it with the minimum of offense toward those who do not see matters as clearly as he does."

#### The President's Life.

The president refers to Mr. Taft's judgment as having been "sound and clear." He says that Mr. Taft decided to run for the presidency in 1908, and that he had been in the army for many years. He says that Mr. Taft was a man of "sound and clear judgment," and that he was a man of "sound and clear judgment."

#### MODEL TENEMENTS FOR TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS.

Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, Sr., Gives \$1,000,000 for Their Erection.

New York, Feb. 24.—Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, Sr., has given more than \$1,000,000, it was announced today, for the erection of four model tenement houses for tuberculosis patients. The buildings are to be operated in connection with Dr. Henry L. Taft's tuberculosis clinic at the Presbyterian hospital, and are to be known as the Shively sanitary tenements. A moderate rental will be charged for the tenements.

#### TEN PERSONS WERE KILLED

AND SEVENTEEN INJURED BY Slipping of Gangway of Steamship Kaiserin Augusta Victoria.

Hamburg, Feb. 24.—Ten persons were killed and seventeen injured today by the slipping of a gangway between the wharf and the steamer Kaiserin Augusta Victoria, which was being prepared for sailing for New York on Saturday next. No passengers were among the victims. Those on the gangway when the accident occurred included members of the crew, stewards and stewardesses. They were dashed into the water, which was covered with drift ice. The majority of them sustained broken bones and several were badly crushed. The official estimate is that some of whose bodies have not yet been recovered, as ten or more.

#### BRIDGEPORT LETTER CARRIER

DROPPED DEAD.

John T. Mooney Stricken With Heart Disease While Collecting Mail.

Bridgeport, Conn., Feb. 24.—John T. Mooney, aged 43, a letter carrier, dropped dead of heart disease while about to collect mail at Fairfield avenue about 10 o'clock tonight. He had fevered from heart trouble for some time and had been compelled to take short "sick" days. Mr. Mooney made a call on two nearby physicians' offices for help, but both were absent. He had been on the carrier force six years and had been a letter carrier for ten years. He had recently been in active litigation against the estate of his brother.

#### AERODROME "SILVER DART"

Made Flight of 41-12 Miles at Elevation of About 50 Feet.

Baddock, N. S., Feb. 24.—The aerial association continued experiments today with aerodrome 3, the McCurdy "Silver Dart." Mr. McCurdy made a flight of four and a half miles at the rate of forty miles an hour, flying between forty and fifty feet. At one point he crossed a tongue of land, going over a tree on his way. At the end of the flight, a landing and a wheel was broken during the landing and a wheel was injured by skidding. It will take a day or two to repair damages.

#### Nevada Senate Passed Anti-Alien Bill.

Carson, Nevada, Feb. 24.—The Nevada senate today passed an anti-alien bill which had already been adopted by the assembly. It is in the form of a joint concurrent resolution providing that all aliens and foreigners shall be excluded from federal and state grazing lands.

#### SHOT IN PORTRAIT GALLERY.

Aged Wealthy Retired American Killed His Wife in London.

London, Feb. 24.—John Tempest Dawson, 70 years of age, shot his wife while they were together in the National Portrait gallery today and then committed suicide. Mrs. Dawson died in a hospital shortly afterwards. The couple were believed to be wealthy retired business men and he and his wife had lived for the past ten years in Brighton. Papers on the man's body show that the act was premeditated.

## Has Bee Missing Since Saturday

HERMANNUS KLASSENS WANTED BY THE POLICE.

\$4,000 CHECK UNACCOUNTED FOR

Some of the Most Prominent Citizens of Newport Affected by Alleged Embezzlement—No Other Deficiency.

Newport, R. I., Feb. 24.—That Hermannus Klasens, president of the Newport Co-operative Association for Saving and Building, is wanted by the police on a charge of embezzlement was announced today following a special meeting of the directors of the association.

Klasens is said to have been missing since last Saturday. According to the auditors of the association, a check for \$4,000, which he received a few days ago for association and cashed is unaccounted for on the books. There is no other deficiency.

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## Connecticut Legislature

REPORT OF COMMITTEES—MINOR JUDGES APPOINTED.

NO \$25,000 FOR INAUGURATION

House Refuses to Vote That Sum for State's Representation at Washington Next Week—Taylor Souvenir.

Hartford, Feb. 24.—The senate was called to order at 11:15 by Lieut.-Gov. Weeks. Prayer by Senator Luther in the absence of Chaplain Sexton.

#### Calendar.

Passed.—Validating the organization and corporate acts of the Willimantic Camp Meeting association by allowing the association to file its annual report by the 1st of March. To borrow \$10,000, extending the time for the organization of the Somers Water company.

#### Taylor's Souvenir.

Senator Higgins, chairman of the committee on contingent expenses, explained the resolution to appropriate \$4,000 to William H. Taylor for 700 copies of his legislative history and souvenir of Connecticut.

#### Report of Committee.

Roads, rivers and bridges.—Referring bill concerning the building of a state road from the Connecticut Agricultural college to the railroad station at Eagle Lake. Committee on appropriations. No referred.

#### Judge Wheeler Re-elected.

On motion of Senator Sears, the rules were suspended and a vote taken on the re-election of Judge George W. Wheeler to the supreme bench. There were 29 votes cast, and Judge Wheeler received the entire number.

#### To Supply Deficiencies.

On the motion of Senator Bales, the senate went into executive session and approved the following nominations: For the office of secretary of the state, \$5,000; for the office of secretary of the state, \$5,000; for the office of secretary of the state, \$5,000.

#### For Police Association.

A resolution was passed making an appropriation of \$4,000 for the State Police association.

#### Executive Session.

On the motion of Senator Brooks the senate went into executive session and approved the following nominations: For the office of secretary of the state, \$5,000; for the office of secretary of the state, \$5,000; for the office of secretary of the state, \$5,000.

#### THE HOUSE.

Speaker Banks called the house to order at 10 o'clock. Chaplain, the Rev. Franklin Countryman, offered prayer.

#### No \$25,000 Inauguration Appropriation.

The resolution calling for an appropriation of \$25,000 for the inauguration of President Taft was rejected by a vote of 100 to 90.

#### Reports of Committees.

Appropriations.—Favorable substitute report making appropriations for the secretary's office and for the Connecticut school for boys for two years.

#### Minor Judge Appointed.

A batch of reports concerning the appointment of judges of city, police, borough and town courts was received from the judges. For the reason the senate were not lowered, and the court proceeded although the conductor had run ahead and pulled the derailing lever. The locomotive was derailed near the rear end, splitting it in two. Many passengers were hurled several feet. That many were not killed was due to the fact that the train, which was a passenger train, was a passenger train.

#### When Trolley Car Was Cut in Two by Railroad Train.

Cleveland, O., Feb. 24.—Three persons were fatally injured and twenty others hurt in a collision between a trolley car and a passenger train and a street car here tonight.

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